




# *Exploring the Certified Currency Plate Proofs:*



## *Refunding Certificates, plus Certificates of Indebtedness of 1907 Census Summary*



United States  
Refunding  
CERTIFICATE  
TEN DOLLARS

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*Image Source: The National Numismatic Collection, National Museum of American History,  
Smithsonian Institution.*



# A Special Thank You!

I would like to extend my deepest gratitude to the Eric P. Newman Numismatic Education Society for awarding me their very generous 2019 Newman Grant.

Thank you for helping me toward achieving my goal of developing a currency plate proof census from compiled metadata and making the PDFs available to all.

I am also very grateful to Leonard Augsburger for his knowledge, patience and expert assistance.

I also would like to thank Peter Huntoon for sparking my interest in this fascinating field of endeavor!

I would include "Currency" in the quote below:

*There is nothing more fascinating than collecting coins, all history is summed up in them...they are the story of humanity.*

W.H. Valentine (1856-1927)

Thank you again for making this possible!

# Thank You to everyone at the National Numismatic Collection!

I am extraordinarily appreciative of the digitization team at the National Numismatic Collection led by:

Sherri Berger, Head of Digital Programs Office

Ellen Feingold, Curator of the National Numismatic Collection, Division of Work and Industry

Hillery York, Collections Manager, Division of Work & Industry

and Jennifer Gloede , Outreach and Collections Specialist

The museum has a program called the Friends of the NNC that provide funds to various digitization and education projects that are a priority for the numismatic community and the department.

If you would like more information about the program you can find it here: <http://americanhistory.si.edu/giving/friends-of-numismatics>

**Please contact me at [Chris@CurrencyProofs.com](mailto:Chris@CurrencyProofs.com) with feedback.**

**Visit [www.CurrencyProofs.com](http://www.CurrencyProofs.com) for project updates.**

**Join the Currency Proof Club at [www.CurrencyProofs.com](http://www.CurrencyProofs.com).**

**Enlarged 11x17 bookplates are available.**

## Overview of the Smithsonian's 2014 "Rapid Capture" digitization program.

The National Numismatic Collection began a pioneering "Rapid Capture" digitization process in October 2014. The project was designed to digitize the certified proof sheets from the Bureau of Engraving and Printing collection. The proofs were transferred to the National Numismatic Collection from the 1960s and 1980s. The scanning process utilized a conveyor belt system with a huge 80 megapixel image camera to capture the items as quickly as possible. The process was much more effective compared to the older way using just a flatbed scanner. The Rapid Capture group photographed around 3,500 sheets daily. It cost less than a dollar a sheet. It was completed in only four and a half months. This project establishes a valuable resource for currency researcher and students.

### References:

#### **SMITHSONIAN DIGITIZING 250,000 BEP PROOFS**

The E-Sylum: Volume 18, Number 16, April 19, 2015, Article 12

[https://www.coinbooks.org/esylum\\_v18n16a12.html](https://www.coinbooks.org/esylum_v18n16a12.html)

#### **SMITHSONIAN DIGITIZES 270,000 BEP CERTIFIED PROOFS**

The E-Sylum: Volume 18, Number 48, November 29, 2015, Article 5

[https://www.coinbooks.org/esylum\\_v18n48a05.html](https://www.coinbooks.org/esylum_v18n48a05.html)

#### **HOW THE SMITHSONIAN IS CROWDSOURCING HISTORY**

The E-Sylum: Volume 19, Number 7, February 14, 2016, Article 7

[https://www.coinbooks.org/esylum\\_v19n07a07.html](https://www.coinbooks.org/esylum_v19n07a07.html)

#### **SMITHSONIAN'S RAPID CAPTURE DIGITIZATION**

The E-Sylum: Volume 20, Number 07, February 12, 2017, Article 5

[https://www.coinbooks.org/v20/club\\_nbs\\_esylum\\_v20n07.html#article5](https://www.coinbooks.org/v20/club_nbs_esylum_v20n07.html#article5)

#### **Museums Are Now Able to Digitize Thousands of Artifacts in Just Hours**     January 14, 2015

[www.smithsonianmag.com/smithsonian-institution/museums-are-now-able-digitize-thousands-artifacts-just-hours-180953867/](http://www.smithsonianmag.com/smithsonian-institution/museums-are-now-able-digitize-thousands-artifacts-just-hours-180953867/)

#### **Get money! (Digitized and transcribed, that is)**     March 13, 2014

<https://americanhistory.si.edu/blog/2014/03/get-money-digitized-and-transcribed-that-is.html>

# REFUNDING CERTIFICATE PLATE PROOF CENSUS

REFUNDING NOTES -- Act of Congress, Feb. 26, 1879.

Notes dated April 1, 1879. -- Denomination issued, \$10.00.

By the terms of above Act the Secretary of the Treasury was authorized to issue, in exchange for lawful money of the United States, certificates of deposit of the denomination of ten dollars, bearing interest at 4 per cent, per annum, and convertible at any time into four per cent, bonds, the money so received to be applied only to the payments of bonds bearing interest at a rate of not less than 5 per cent.

There were two forms; the first bore on the obverse the name of the person to whom the note was issued and required the endorsement of the owner in presence of a witness on the reverse; the second was a general certification that ten dollars had been deposited and required no endorsement; both bore red seals and the words " United States refunding certificate, ten dollars. '

Payable to order

141	\$10.00	Portrait, Franklin (left); large 10 (right); 1879, G. W. Scofield, Register. Jas. Gilfillan, Treasurer. Medium red, with rays
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Payable to bearer

142	\$10.00	Portrait, Franklin (left); large 10 (right); 1879, G. W. Scofield, Register. Jas. Gilfillan, Treasurer. Red, scalloped
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The reverses were printed in black, the second form bore the word TEN in large letters and the following inscription:

"Interest on this note will accrue as follows: For each 9 days or 1/10 of a quarter, one cent; for each quarter year, ten cents: for each entire year, forty cents."

The object of the Government in making these notes of a small denomination was to encourage the poorer people to invest small sums of money in United States securities. They were convertible, with accrued interest, into 4 per cent, bonds when presented at the office -of the Treasurer of the United States in sums of \$50.00 or multiples thereof, but as a matter of fact they were but partially successful in accomplishing this object, and fell mostly into the hands of the national banks.

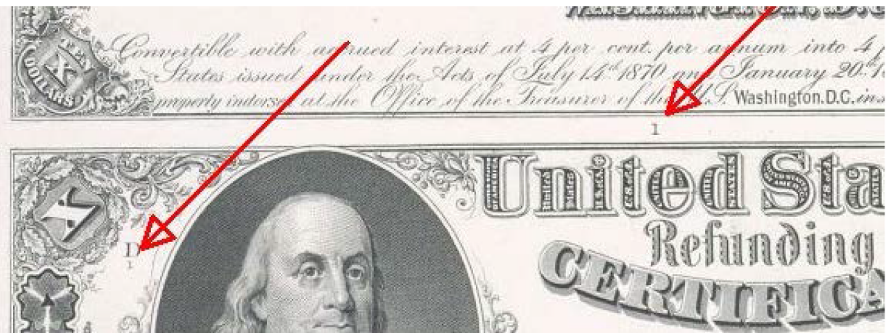
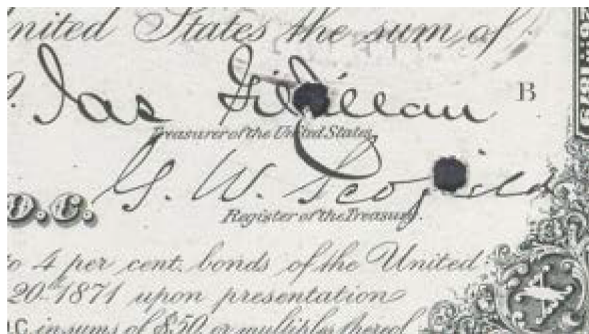
Reference: Blake, H. (1908). United States Paper Money. (New York, NY). Page 30-31



# REFUNDING CERTIFICATE PLATE PROOF CENSUS

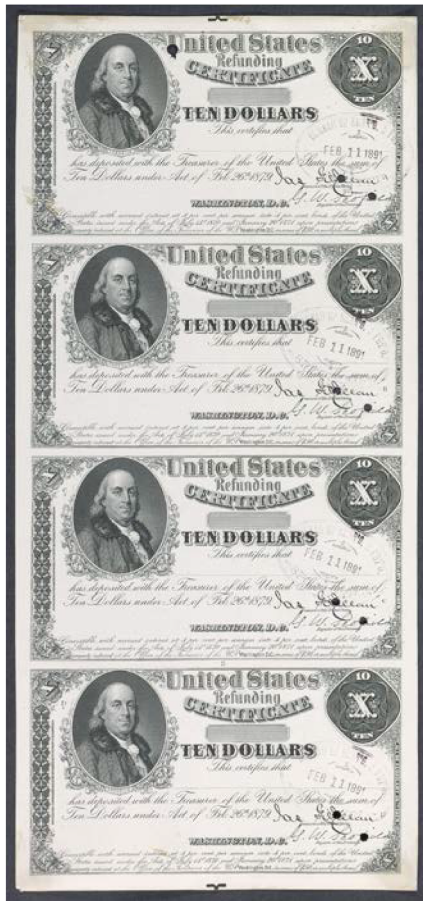


\$10, Pay to purchaser type, with signature line



Front, Plate Number Locations

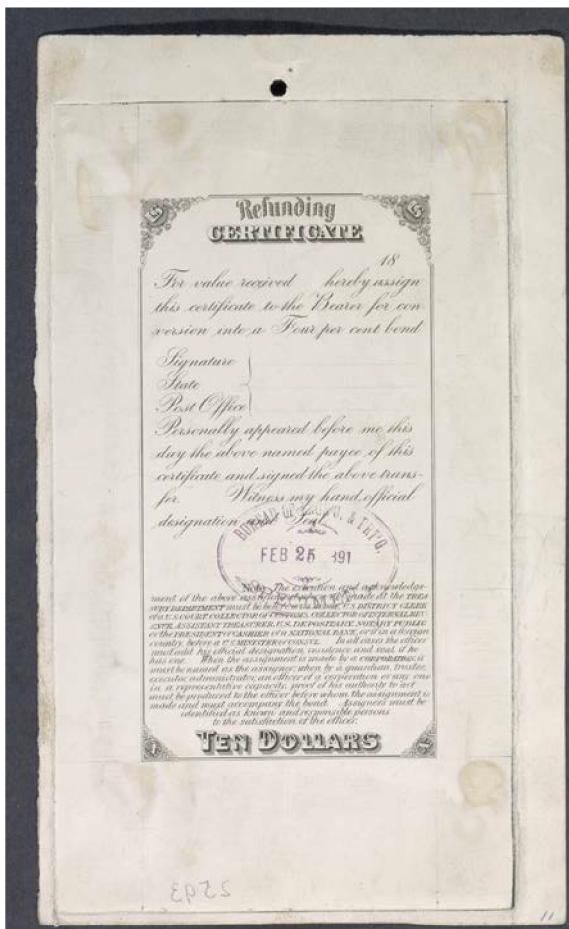
# REFUNDING CERTIFICATE PLATE PROOF CENSUS



\$10, Pay to purchaser type, with signature line

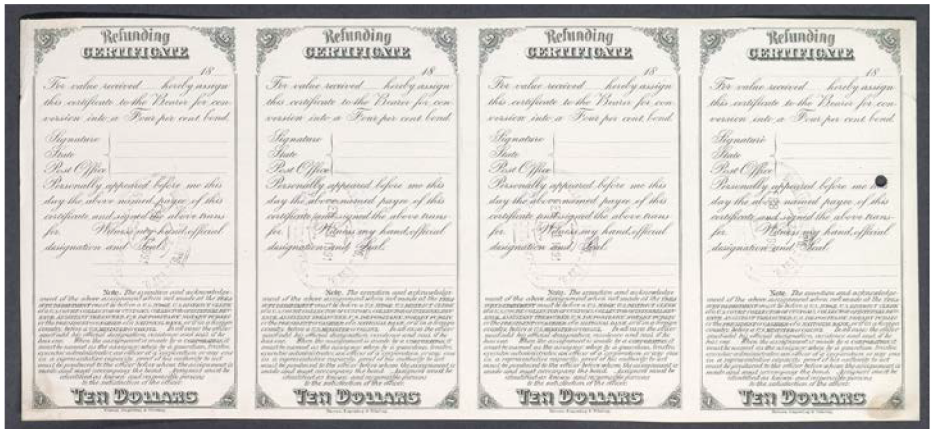
Refunding Certificates of 1879	FRONT	PLATE No.	Signatures
[Pay to purchaser]			
\$10	5	1 to 5	Scofield Gilfillan

# REFUNDING CERTIFICATE PLATE PROOF CENSUS



Reverse, Pay to purchaser type, with signature line

# REFUNDING CERTIFICATE PLATE PROOF CENSUS



Reverse, Pay to purchaser type, with signature line

Refunding Certificates of 1879	REVERSE	PLATE No.
[Pay to purchaser]		
\$10	4*	
*plus one proof 1x1 layout		



# REFUNDING CERTIFICATE PLATE PROOF CENSUS



\$10 Pay to bearer type, without signature line

Refunding Certificates of 1879	FRONT	PLATE No.	Signatures
[Pay to bearer]			
\$10	23	1 to 23	Scofield Gilfillan



## REFUNDING CERTIFICATE PLATE PROOF CENSUS

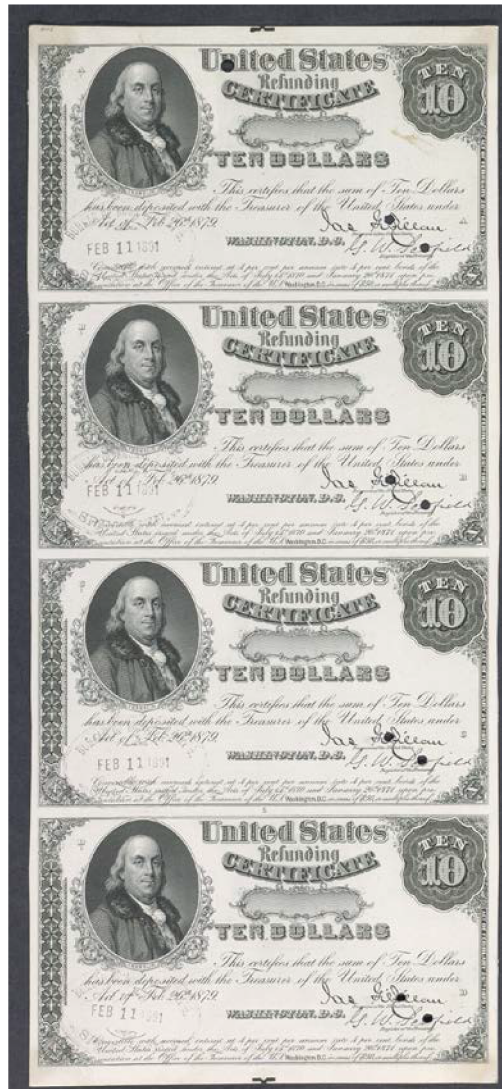


Pay to purchaser type, with signature line, TEN X



Pay to bearer type, without signature line, TEN 10

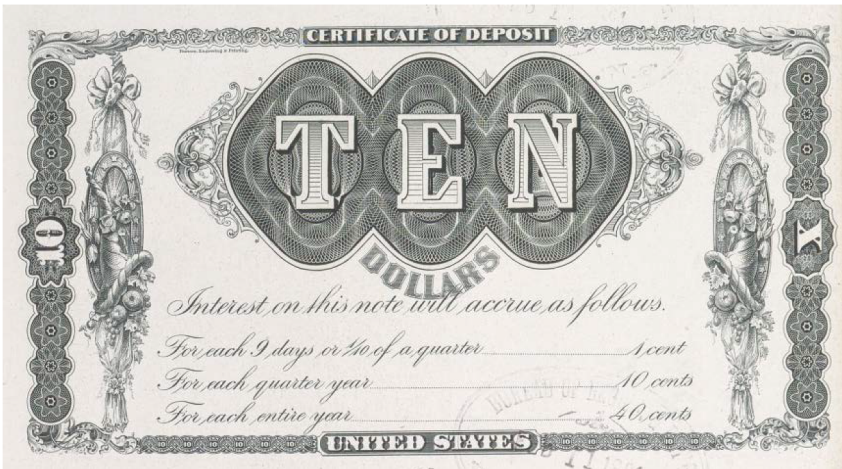
# REFUNDING CERTIFICATE PLATE PROOF CENSUS



\$10, 1 x 4 layout



# REFUNDING CERTIFICATE PLATE PROOF CENSUS



Refunding Certificates of 1879	REVERSE	PLATE No.
[Pay to bearer]		
\$10	23	1 to 25**

\*\* Plates 21 & 22 are unfinished, incomplete



## REFUNDING CERTIFICATE PLATE PROOF CENSUS

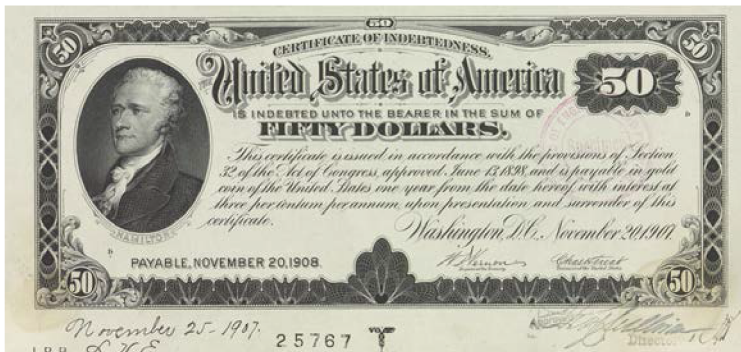


# CERTIFICATE OF INDEBTEDNESS OF 1907

## PLATE PROOF CENSUS

On a side note, The Panic of 1907 (also known as the 1907 Bankers' Panic or Knickerbocker Crisis), was a financial crisis that took place over a three-week period in the U.S. starting in mid-October, when the New York Stock Exchange dropped nearly half from its peak the prior year.

Congress passed an act in 1907 that ended the interest accrual of the Refunding Certificates. It also authorized Certificates of Indebtedness (plates certified in Nov. 1907) to inject liquidity into the system. (Pre-FED)



# CERTIFICATE OF INDEBTEDNESS OF 1907 PLATE PROOF CENSUS



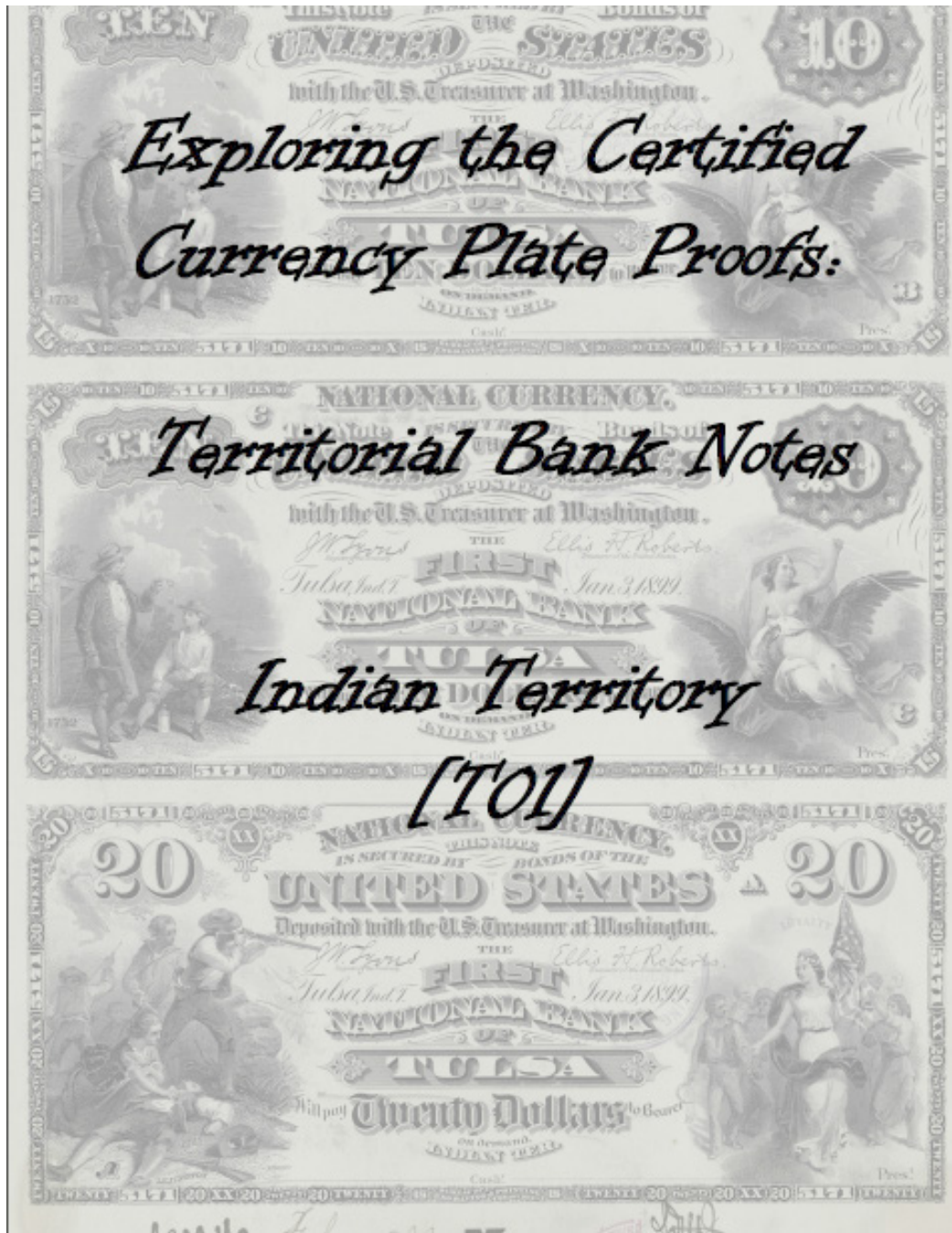
Certificates of Indebtedness of 1907	FRONT	PLATE No. Range	Signatures
\$50	9	25762 thru 25775	Vernon Treat
	REVERSE	PLATE No. Range	
\$50	16	25718 thru 25748	



Coming Soon!

## The Territorial Bank Note Plate Proof Census

Contact: [Chris@CurrencyProofs.com](mailto:Chris@CurrencyProofs.com) with questions!



Including: Alaska Territory, Arizona Territory, Colorado Territory, Dakota Territory, Hawaii Territory, Indian Territory, Montana Territory, Nebraska Territory, New Mexico Territory, Oklahoma Territory, Utah Territory, Washington Territory & Wyoming Territory.



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**Enlarged 11x17 bookplate posters are available.**

## **Coming Soon!**

6% Loan February 25, 1862  
3% Loan of 1898  
Certificate of Indebtedness  
Cuban Silver Certificates  
Federal Farm Loan Bonds  
Funded Loan of 1881  
Funded Loan of 1891 Misc. tints  
Loan Act of March 3, 1865  
War Bonds 1890s  
Civil War Bonds  
Panama Canal Loans  
Early Food Stamps  
Philippines Treasury Certificate Victory Series  
Thrift stamps and war savings stamps  
Treasury Certificates 1940's-1950's  
Treasury Coupon Bonds 1920's-1930's  
Treasury Savings Certificates 25 Dollars 1920's  
War Finance Corp. Bonds  
  
and many more topics!